

THE MESSAGE

L. A. BIRD, Local Editor.

THURSDAY, NOV. 30, 1899.

Felix Arnall is sick with typhoid fever at his home in West Mexico. Air tight O.K. stoves, Jewell and Superior sold on trial.

Ferris & Cauthorn.

Homer Adams has resigned his position at the "Globe" and returned to his home in Laddonia.

Carving sets, turkey roasters, sausage mills, Superior cooking stoves. Ferris & Cauthorn.

W. M. Jesse, of Rush Hill, is the newsman in the general store of J. H. Wayne in Benton City.

Clay Shepherd and wife of this city, have moved to Louisiana. Mr. Shepherd has a position with the La Cross Lumber Co.

Genuine Superior cooking and heating stoves. See grapes on the door before buying 63 years on the market. They are made of A quality of iron. Ferris & Cauthorn.

The revival meeting at the Mexico Baptist church, conducted by the pastor, Dr. Porter, is gathering interest daily. May it accomplish a great good.

Ferris & Cauthorn, San'a F., Mo.—Gentlemen: I bought a Superior cook stove in 1878; it has been in constant use and has never cost 5c for repairs. Resp., W. B. Hanna.

Ladies, all of Mrs. Derrick's goods in Laddonia are being sold below cost. She will not carry over hats, jackets, capes or collarets. Now is your time to get bargains.

Two Wellsville parties, a man and woman came to Mexico this week on the train but were met at the depot and commanded to return, on account of the smallpox quarantine.

Miss Addie Hale, of near Laddonia, and Miss Annie Miller, of near Rush Hill, are attending school in Mexico. The Mexico schools are among the best in the West and they draw.

An old friend down in Massachusetts writes us: "Allow me to congratulate you on the MESSAGE. Good paper. Hope you will make a success of the new venture; I believe you will."

Rosalie, the little six months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Field, just east of Mexico, died Sunday night of pneumonia. The funeral was preached Monday by Elder S. D. Dutcher.

The flag on the Mexico post-office was at half-mast from 2 to 4 o'clock last Saturday afternoon, at which hour occurred the funeral of Vice-President Garrett A. Hobart at his home in Patterson, New Jersey.

A St. Louis millionaire passed to the great beyond the other day and on the same day a wagon wheel amputated the big toe of a barefooted negro boy. The Post-Dispatch was magnanimous enough to speak of the happenings in notices of the same length.

George F. Buffum, the president of the LaCross Lumber Co., died at his home in Louisiana last Monday. Mr. Buffum was widely known. His age was 73. He leaves three children, Frank, Charles G. and Mrs. Ada Starks, all residing at Louisiana.

An old newspaper man in the state of Nebraska and a friend of the MESSAGE writes: "I have looked your new paper thru carefully and am well pleased with it. It is my kind of newspaper. Its make up, tone politically and otherwise suits me O. K. Keep it up to its present standard and the victory will be yours."

W. M. Pearson, secretary of Mexico Camp Modern Woodmen, received a draft the other day for \$2,000 in favor of Mrs. James A. Harrison, account of the death of her husband recently who was insured in this order. There have been four deaths in the Mexico camp since its organization, and \$8000 have come to this community in benefits, and each benefit has been paid in less than 30 days after the death.

A little miss,

A little kiss,

A little bliss,

A wedding—that is splendid.

A little jaw,

A little law,

Back home to ma,

And lo! the trouble's ended.

—Chicago News.

NEW RAILROAD.

Will Come to Mexico.—Early Construction—Surveyors at Work.

The following letter will be encouraging news as to the building of that new railroad from the north. Its construction would be a help to Mexico. The headquarters and machine shops of the company, it is understood, are to be in Mexico: To Hon. Orlando Hitt, Mexico, Mo.

OFFICE OF THE ST. LOUIS, IOWA AND NORTHERN RAILWAY CO., ELDON, IOWA, Nov. 27, 1899.—I write you that the false rumors may be righted, and that we have our corps of surveyors in the field of Callaway county. They will take up the line of survey near Reedsville, and will cross the Missouri river at the mouth of the Gasconade river. Thence they will go in a southeasterly direction to a junction with the new survey of the St. Louis, Kansas City & Colorado Railway line.

We have definite arrangements with the Colorado line for terminal facilities in St. Louis over their line through Union into the Union depot.

We have placed our bonds with the American Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago. We are figuring with a number of contractors for construction and hope to have a contract signed by Jan. 1, 1900.

Much time has elapsed since my first visit to your city, but a vast amount of hard work has been accomplished. Our arrangements are such that we have no hesitancy in saying that the building of the road by our company is an assured fact. When complete and in operation, we will have direct connection with St. Louis, Little Rock, Kansas City, Des Moines and Chicago.

We are using our best endeavors for early construction, and when a contract is signed I will visit your city and close up our deal and redeem our promise in full.

Truly yours,

J. E. HUGHESLAND,

Second Vice President.

Municipal Electric Lighting. The MESSAGE is in favor of the city of Mexico owning her public utilities, and we are glad to see the City Council moving for the ownership of the electric light plant.

This is no radical step. Mexico is not leading but only following in this matter. Look around you, will you, and see the other Missouri cities that own their electric light plants. Macon City, Fulton, Albany and Hannibal are in this list. We have heard of no fault-finding with the plan from any of them.

We are not posted on how much any of these cities is making or saving by the investment, but that can be easily ascertained. Here is an instance from Logansport, Indiana. The report of the city electric light plant for that town for 1898, shows a total expense for all purposes of \$13,907. The receipts were \$35,110—a net profit of \$18,215, or 18 percent on the investment. The plant cost \$108,048. The cost of an incandescent light to consumers is 90c a year or 7½ cents a month. These figures can be confirmed by sending to the city clerk of Logansport for detailed report.

But we think there is no need of going so far for the necessary encouragement and facts. Let the City Council of Mexico follow up the investigations begun. They will find glad response from the people if there can be any saving, and that a saving can be found the MESSAGE has not the least fear.

Mrs. B. A. Thornberg of Mexico, is at the bedside of her daughter, wife of Dr. W. A. Steel, at Carmin, Ill., who is seriously sick.

Later.—Mrs. Steele died Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The consulting physician thought her disease appendicitis. Mrs. Steele's maiden name was Alice Thornburg. She leaves two small children, both girls. Dr. W. A. Steele, the husband, is a son of R. T. Steele at Laddonia.

Miss Lily Steele, at Laddonia, dangerously sick with the typhoid fever, late yesterday was no better.

J. W. Wallace died at his home west of Mexico Tuesday of typhoid fever. He had been ill for some time.

Our Country Cousins

Spicy News from Various Parts of the County

Laddonia.

Mrs. Sarah Cook, who is in Kansas City for medical treatment, will return home this week.

Mrs. R. W. Pearson, who spent the past month in Louisiana for medical treatment, returned home last week. She was much fatigued when she first arrived, but is growing stronger.

Mrs. A. C. Mendenhall is improving from her late illness, and Miss Lillie Steele is about the same. She improves very slowly.

The people are beginning to think more seriously about the smallpox and most of them don't want any visitors to come here from Wellsville. Paris or Martinsburg. New cases have been reported from Wellsville and Paris. We think it time our town should guard against it.

Mrs. Lida Frank and three children, of Mexico, visited relatives here the first of the week.

Elder Hiecoe is holding a series of meetings at the Presbyterian church.

A gospel temperance meeting was held at the Baptist church last Saturday evening, and one also at the Christian church Sunday evening. The first was under the auspices of the W. C. T. U.

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Stevens are the happy parents of a little baby girl that came Sunday night to gladden their home.

What is the matter with our marriageable people? No prospects of any weddings this winter. The young ladies, many of them, are earning good wages, and they say they haven't time to get married. It takes time to entertain and to prepare for it. Some of our young men are hunting employment, and many have left for new places to hunt work. Those who remain at home are doing their best to find work on farms or in town.

We have no crap shooters here. They have either shot all their pennies away or found that the trade was made up of loss and gain, but mostly of the former. Now and then a lonely crap shooter can be found, but like angels' visits, they are few and long between.

Molino.

Frank Dowel and Mr. Jones who went to Texas county some weeks ago write back to their friends that they arrived there safely. Both got them a good farm apiece, cheap, and that they are well pleased with the country.

Ira Ellis who rented his farm last spring and moved to Mexico, has now bought his renter out and is moving back to it. He says town is no place for him. That is right, Ira, stick to your farm.

Wm. Cauthorn and sisters, Misses Nina and Pauline, visited their Uncle's family, Beard Price, last Sunday.

The Crawford sale was well attended. Every thing brought a good price. Mr. Crawford will go to Paris. His brother-in-law, Mr. Palmers, will go to Texas. This will be a great loss to the Long Branch church, as they have all held their membership there for a number of years.

Mr. Patterson will have a sale in the near future and will move West. Then we will lose another excellent family.

Ray Ferris, of Mexico, spent several days last week with his friend Wm. Weaver in this community.

Dr. Auston, of Hallsville, was back to Molino shaking hands with old friends recently.

Uncle Jim Beam has been very busy sawing wood for the last three or four weeks.

Mrs. Margaret Baker is the guest of her daughter Mrs. Felix Martin this week.

Farber.

George Teague shipped a car load of cattle last Saturday and Mr. Lewellen shipped a car load of hogs. When one was ready to load he found several tons of offal in a state of decomposition in the car, and having only a few minutes was obliged to load his hogs on it. Our citizens were glad the filthy stuff was not unloaded in our town.

Mrs. Noel is very sick with ty-

phoid fever.

Alonzo Huntly is also very low with typhoid fever.

The board of school directors had the floor in the senior department and the lock on the front door repaired. So the door can be conveniently opened and closed.

The Coal Co. is making things lively. No idle hands in town now. Our widows cannot get men to saw or cut their stove wood.

J. B. Sykes has started his mill again and is making new meal out of new corn.

There are a number of fine stray shoats hunting their rations in the west part of Farber. Wonder some person doesn't take them up and try to make their winter's meat of them. Hogs are in demand, but they are very annoying when loose on the commons.

Our school boys have nearly all learned to smoke cigarettes, chew tobacco, smoke cigars, and many of them can ride the bicycle.

Amos Sutton shipped a car load of cattle this week.

Our Lumber office was closed Tuesday and black crape on the door knob indicating that the president of the company was dead.

Wesley Chapel

Wilmer Anderson is home from Centralia where he has been visiting his sister, Mrs. Angell.

James Fairies and wife are visiting Mr. Huntly of Farber who is quite sick.

J. R. Hixon is home from Ohio. F. L. LaForce of Worcester, will build a hall for the Modern Woodmen in the near future.

The Baptists will have an oyster supper Thanksgiving night in the Galbraith building at Worcester.

Miss Fannie Dickey of Laddonia

is visiting at R. L. Days.

George Williams of near Laddonia spent Sunday with James Anderson.

The enterprising stock man of Laddonia, A. K. Dick, was in the vicinity of Piddittown last Monday gathering up a load of hogs for which he paid from \$3.10 to \$3.40.

Miss Lida Gibson of Mexico, spent Saturday and Sunday with John Hanger's family.

Champ.

Miss Bird Thomas is entertaining her cousin Miss Sallie Connor, of Concord.

Artie Stevenson is home from a year's stay in Oklahoma.

Albert Kimpson is on the sick list.

Elder S. D. Dutcher will conduct a revival meeting at Bethel church beginning Dec. 4th.

Mrs. C. Dean and little daughter Jennie, are home from a visit to Mrs. Dean's parents in Boone county.

Vandalia.

Elijah Galloway, an old and respected citizen, died at his home in this city last Wednesday, at the age of 72. He leaves a wife and two sons. Mr. Galloway was born in Indiana, came to Missouri in 1850 and had lived in this county ever since.

Mrs. John Bear, recently of Middletown and formerly from Ohio, died in this city last Friday. Aged 71 years.

E. M. Gordan came in from Dent county with one hundred and one feeding cattle and will feed them on his farm north of town.

The Bohrer Bros. shipped a car load of mules to St. Louis last Friday.

Melvin Webb is building him a neat cottage on the Ferguson block in North Vandalia.

J. S. Forester is building a new livery stable in the rear of the city Hotel.

It is said that there are two

cases of smallpox among some negro son Cuiver, near Gazette, and our town authorities have quarantined against that neighborhood. Everything quiet and business dull.

The price of broom corn has advanced, so the broom manufacturers say, from \$60 to \$200 per ton. The trust has declared to raise the price of brooms in like proportion.

Prairie Lea.

On a recent trip over the north-west part of our county we find better crops than we expected. Wm. Pitman who lives near Skinner is gathering from ten to eleven barrels to the acre. He and his boys are cribbing twelve loads per day averaging thirty five bushels per acre. The boys about the little burg for miles around will collect at the little town and choose up sides and spend the day in a big hunt this evening, Wednesday. They will count the quails and rabbits and the losing side will have to furnish two bushels of oysters. A grand time is expected.

J. L. C.

Mrs. R. R. Arnold, who has been seriously ill for some time, has been taken to the Mullanphy hospital in St. Louis for treatment. It is earnestly hoped that she may soon recover.

Frank M. Quinn, of near Perry, who has been at the asylum at Fulton for some months, is restored to health and passed thru Mexico yesterday on his return home.

Judge Richard Phillips, a pioneer citizen of Western Audrain, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ben Hardin, in Kansas City, Monday afternoon.

John Houk, aged 45, died Monday night at his home in north Mexico. He had been sick for some time. The body was interred at Benton City.

B. R. Middleton of Mexico bought forty horses and mules in the vicinity of Columbia last week.



Clearing Land Without Grubbing.
The destruction of forest timber by means other than grubbing the trees out has, for many years, been an object for research by experimentalists, and various recipes have been given as infallible but there has always been a flaw somewhere, and the discovery has come to nought. There is, however, one method of getting rid of heavy timber which has proved successful, although very slow, and consequently can only be adopted where the necessity does not exist for speedy work, says the Queensland Agricultural Gazette. Some dozen acres at Woody Point have been cleared of very large trees, some white gums especially having a diameter of from six to seven feet. The land was heavily timbered, and yet was cleared at a cost of about 25s. per acre. The owner, who is fond of making experiments in this line, found in an American paper a process of destroying growing trees, and determined to try it on his land. With an inch auger he bored deep holes in the trees and filled them with powdered saltpetre. He then plugged up the holes, and on examining them some weeks afterward he found that the salt had been entirely absorbed. He replenished the holes two or three times and waited to see the trees wither. Instead of this, to his great regret, he found that they had increased in density and beauty of foliage. The salt seemed to have given them new life, as it was carried with the circulating sap from roots to leaves. Evidently something was wrong. After a time he met a Canadian gentleman to whom he casually mentioned his experiment, and expressed his opinion that he could not have read the recipe correctly. The Canadian, however, told him that he was quite right. Saltpetre was the only ingredient used, and thousands of acres were cleared by its use in Canada. What had to be done, however, after the salt had been carried through the trees was to ringbark them, and when they were dead to fire them. The Woody Point man set to work and carried out the ringbarking. When the trees were quite dead he set them on fire, with the result that the trees burned completely out, even to the farthest tips of the roots. Before all were burned out heavy rains came on and swamped the stump holes, putting out the fires, but the experiment was a decided success.

Wheat in Canada.

Experiments with winter wheat under the direction of the Ontario Agricultural union give results which may be summarized as follows:

1. In average yield per acre, Dawson's Golden Chaff stood highest among eleven varieties tested over Ontario in 1893, among nine varieties in each of the years 1894, 1895 and 1896, and among seven varieties in each of the years 1897, 1898 and 1899.
2. In the co-operative experiments for 1899, Stewart's Champion Bearded Winter Fife, and Dawson's Golden Chaff came through the winter the best, the Golden Drop the poorest.
3. Early Red Clawson and Imperial Amber were the first, and the Bearded Winter Fife and Stewart's Champion were the last, to mature in 1899.
4. Dawson's Golden Chaff and Early Genesee Giant possessed the strongest straw, and the Bearded Winter Fife the weakest in the tests of the present year.
5. Stewart's Champion and Bearded Winter Fife produced the longest, and the Golden Drop the shortest, straw in 1899.
6. In the co-operative experiments of each of the past six years, Dawson's Golden Chaff was one of the least, and the Early Genesee Giant was one of the most, affected by rust.
7. In 1899 all varieties were practically free from smut, as the seed used was so free from smut spores.
8. Stewart's Champion and Dawson's Golden Chaff produced the plumpest, and Imperial Amber and Early Red Clawson the most shrunken, grain in this year's tests.
9. Stewart's Champion and Dawson's Golden Chaff were the most popular varieties, and the golden drop the least popular, with the experimenters in 1899.
10. During the past seven years Dawson's Golden Chaff has been an exceedingly popular variety with the farmers who have been conducting these co-operative experiments throughout Ontario.

Flax Burn.—The Agricultural Institute of Gembloux, Belgium, has made exhaustive research into the nature of the malady known as "flax burn," and has learned that this disease arises from a "microscopic fungous growth living in the cells of the roots." There is no method of direct treatment, as the parasite is internal and subterranean. The use of different manures has given no satisfactory result. The only remedy is to destroy "the diseased plants so that the germs will not spread; to abandon the culture of flax on the infected soil at least seven or eight years; also to avoid planting turnips in the soil abandoned, as they are thought to harbor the parasite."

Speltz Wheat.—At the experiment station in North Dakota speltz wheat is being tested. President Worst says it's raised with great success on the Missouri slope, yields greater than oats, stands drought better and is adapted to the climate of both North and South Dakota.

Weights of Famous Men.

Here are the heights of some famous men: Burke, 5 ft. 10 in.; Burns, 5 ft. 10 in.; Sir R. Burton, over 6 ft.; Sir Walter Raleigh, 6 ft.; Peter the Great, 6 ft. 8½ in.; Thackeray, 6 ft. 4 in.; Lincoln, 6 ft. 1 in.; George Washington, 6 ft. 3 in.; Lord Beaconsfield, 6 ft. 9 in.; Byron, 5 ft. 8½ in.; Voltaire, 5 ft. 7 in.; Washington, 5 ft. 11 in.; Balzac, 5 ft. 4 in.; Beethoven, 5 ft. 11 in.; Keats, 5 ft.; Napoleon, 5 ft. 4½ in.; Nelson, 5 ft. 4 in.; De Quincey, 5 ft. 3 in.

Big Sale At Reduced Prices

ON

OVERCOATS AND SUITS

Going On Now

AT

MEXICO - - -

- - - MISSOURI.

JOE & VIC BARTHE'S.

SCENES AT CAPE TOWN.

Missouri Mule Dealer Describes South African Affairs.

PARIS, Mo., Nov. 28.—Vaughan Smock, a Missourian, and a native of this (Monroe) county, has just returned from a trip to South Africa, where he went in July with a shipload of Missouri mules and jacks. He left on his return trip on October 15, and has much to say of the stirring events now transpiring in that section of the world.

Cecil Rhodes bought the entire shipload of mule that Smock took to South Africa, paying \$800 apiece for jacks that were bought for \$150 in this country. Before he left, Smock says, \$50,000 was offered by the Boers for Cecil Rhodes, dead or alive.

Mr. Smock says the Boers are big, sturdy men, and that while most of the Cape Town Dutch are opposed to the war, many of their sons are fighting with Joubert. The British troops he saw were fine-looking young men, most of them not over 22 years old, and many looking to be from 16 to 18.

"It looks," he says, "as if England were sending schoolboys to fight the grim men of the Transvaal."

The people at Cape Town thought at first that one or two small battles would end the war, and that the Boers would then lay down their arms, but they now expect a

long and bitter struggle.

All the Americans in Cape town are in sympathy with the English, and both Americans and English there, as well as in London, where he stopped for a week on his return home, believe there is an actual alliance between the United States and Great Britain. The English, especially, he says, are building much hope on this fact.

South Africa, Mr. Smock thinks, presents at this day the best field in the world for money making, and American mules are in especial demand. He saw Frank White, a former Monroe county boy and well known grocery drummer of North Missouri, and says that White has secured valuable army contracts and is getting rich.

Wood sells for \$40 a cord in Cape Town; a heavy team costs \$25 a day, and board is \$23 a week. There is not a tree in South Africa, Mr. Smock says, not planted by human hands.

Ben Cauthorn of Mexico entertained a burglar unawares Tuesday night. The intruder entered by a window and procured just \$11.29. Twenty-eight cents of that belonged to the little 5 year old son of Ross Cauthorn, which the father undoubtedly will have to repay. The \$11.01 was found in Mr. Ben Cauthorn's pantaloons pocket. The pantaloons were carried outside the house and thrown down. Nothing else about the premises disturbed, except a piece of meat missing.

When the proper time comes H. L. Bickley will be heard from

in the race as a candidate for Prosecuting Attorney of the county.

Rush Hill news letter too late for this issue.

Workmen are putting in the new C. & A. bridge over Salt River, just east of Mexico.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch published pictures of two Hardin College ladies last Sunday. Misses Mary Houts and Ida Pitzell.

The case of W. H. Triplett vs. Mrs. I. J. Sims occupied about three days before acting Justice Cluster in the Circuit Court room this week. The jury failed to agree. About 60 witnesses were examined. A new trial next week.

It looks as tho a Cuban crisis is at hand. It is represented that the island's affairs are chaotic and that an uprising of the natives to fight for independence seems imminent. Now we wonder if it is the plan to aggravate the Cubans till they are forced to precipitate trouble, as was the case in the Philippines.

Ohio's Liquor Traffic.

Ohio, with the Dow law, was the pioneer state in establishing the excise system upon which the Rains law in New York is based, and from reports filed with the state auditor in Columbus it appears that there are now in Ohio 10,874 saloons, a gain of 698 over the number in the returns of a year ago. The yearly income of the state from the Dow law is \$548,116.69.

American Cows.

American farmers own cows to the value of \$369,239,998, a sum equal to more than one-half of the capital of all the national banks in the United States.